GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7080
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2002
RURAL SPORTS PROGRAMMES
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to drop the Rural Sports Programmes;

(b) whether the budgetary allocation under this scheme in 2001-2002 was in the range of Rs. 1.25 crore;

(c) if so, the details of the utilisation of the budgetary allocation so far; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to encourage sports activities in the rural areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The budgetary allocation under the scheme of Rural Sports Programme was Rs. 84 lakhs. At the RE stage it was revised upwards to Rs. 100 lakhs. This was excluding an amount of Rs. 16 lakhs allocated for organization of North-East Sports Festival under the scheme.

(c) The entire amount was utilized for organization of State and National level sports tournaments and the North - East Sports Festival.

(d) To encourage sports activities in the rural areas, Government of India implements the scheme of Rural Sports Programme, under which rural sports tournaments are organized in selected disciplines at Block, District, State and National levels. North-East Sports Festival is organized involving sports persons from the North- Eastern States including Sikkim to tap the hidden talent which is in abundance there.